

## **REMARKS**

### **I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1, 10, 12, 13, 15, 24, 25 and 27 are amended herein. No new matter has been added.

Claims 36-39 have been added. No new matter is being presented.

Claims 8, 9, 14, 23, 26 and 33-35 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 9, 10 and 24 are allowed if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 26-29 are "objected to" but would be allowable if amended into independent form.

Claims 10 and 24 are rewritten in independent form. Based on the Examiner's comments on page 7 under the "Allowable Subject Matter", it is respectfully submitted that claims 10 and 24 should clearly be allowable.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-7, 10-13, 15-32 and 36-39 are currently pending.

### **II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-11 AND 24 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH**

The Examiner notes that there is insufficient antecedent basis for "the door" in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is amended to correct this matter.

Further, the Examiner notes that there is insufficient antecedent basis for "the rotary member" in claim 24. Therefore, claim 24 is amended to correct this matter.

### **III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

On pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, claims 1, 12-18, 30 and 31 were rejected as unpatentable over Ha (U.S. Patent 5,209,082) in view of Hoffman (U.S. Patent 6,711,856).

Claim 1 specifically recites, amongst other novel features, "a refrigerator compartment" and "a home bar door provided at the opening to selectively open or close the home bar; and an automatic opening unit installed at an edge of the opening, and pushing the home bar door to a predetermined angle so that the home bar door is automatically opened by gravity." Ha and Hoffman, either singularly or in combination, fail to teach this feature.

Ha discloses how a multi-purpose refrigerator includes a main door and a fresh storage compartment mounted on a rear side of said main door and being accessible through an auxiliary door formed in said main door wherein the fresh storage compartment comprises a multi-section housing mounted to a pair of vertical walls disposed on the rear or inner side of the main door. See, for example, the Abstract of Ha.

In the Office Action, the Examiner concedes that Ha fails to teach an automatic door opening unit. However, Hoffman fails to cure the deficiencies of Ha. Instead, Hoffman relates to automobile doors, and more particularly, to door opening assist devices for use on **automobile doors, hoods, and trunks**. See, column 1, lines 5-8 of Hoffman. It is respectfully submitted that Hoffman has nothing to do with refrigerators but is related to automobile devices.

Therefore, it would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention of this present application to combine Ha and Hoffman to achieve Applicant's invention as specifically recited in, for example, claim 1.

Moreover, claim 1 is amended to include the features of allowable-claim 9. Based on the Examiner's comments found on page 7 of the Office Action under the "Allowable Subject Matter", it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is clearly allowable.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences in claims 12, 13, 15-18, 30 and 31 over the cited references.

Furthermore, on pages 4-6 of the Office Action, claims 2-8, 11, 19-23, 25 and 32 were rejected as unpatentable over various combination of Ha as a primary reference with Hoffman (U.S. Patent 6,711,856); Baker et al (US Patent NO. 6,055,823); Arakawa et al (U.S. Patent 4,660,871); Inoue (U.S. Patent 4,828,236); and (U.S. Patent 2,794,434). However, it is respectfully submitted that nothing was cited or has been found in any of these secondary and tertiary references suggesting modification of Ha to overcome the deficiencies discussed above. Since, claims 2-7, 11, 19-23, 25 and 32 depend from claims 1 and 15, it is submitted that claims 2-7, 11, 19-23, 25 and 32 patentably distinguish over Ha for reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 15.

Moreover, claims 12, 13 and 24 are amended to include the features of allowable-claim 9, and independent claim 15 is amended to include the features of "objected to" claim 26. Based on the Examiner's comments found on page 7 of the Office Action under the "Allowable Subject Matter", it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 12, 13, 15 and 24 are clearly allowable.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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